

THIS POINT....in time

NEWSLETTER

The Point Richmond History Association

www.PointRichmondHistory.org

Vol. XXXI No. 5

April/May, 2013

\$3.00



Mark Your Calendar Now
2 PM on May 19, 2013
PRHA will have our
Annual Meeting
Election of Officers

Author

Steve Gilford

Will be there to tell

***The story of the SS Stephen Hopkins, a
Richmond built Liberty Ship, one of the
greatest sea adventures to come out of
World War Two***

Point Richmond Community Center
139 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond
Refreshments will be served.

From the President

By Mid Dornan

The City of Richmond's identification on maps is getting notable and researched more as Rosie the Riveter World War II Homefront National Park grows and draws more visitors and publicity. This quiet town of 23,000 exploded to over 100,000 in a matter of a few short years during World War II. It was a time that Henry J. Kaiser was becoming a name to respect. So many stories! So much happening! So fast!

Join us on Sunday, May 19th, 2:00 p.m. at the Point Community Center in the downtown triangle as the Point Richmond History Association holds their Annual Meeting and election of officers. After a brief meeting, Steve Gilford, historian and writer, will discuss the role of Richmond's Shipyards and the adventures of the SS Stephen Hopkins from his book, ***Build 'em by the Mile; Cut 'em by the Yard.*** Everyone is welcome.

Contents of this Issue

From the President	1
Members	2
Editor's Notes	3
A-Mid Trivia	4
Church News	6
Womens Westside Improvement	10
Indian Statue Cover Story	12
Photo Gallery	14
Original Statue Story	17
Masquers Playhouse	19
Frank Spenger, Sr.	20
90's Club	24
Cards and Emails	24
Birthdays	25
Deaths	27
Calendar	28



Thank you members for your renewal:

Margaret Morkowski
Brenda McKinley
Doug & Rosemary Corbin**
Gary Darling Family
Dixie L. Mello
Roger Glafke
David & Elana Dolberg Family
Diane & Gordon Hirano**
Patricia Dornan**
Marion Kent
Tom & Shirley Butt**
Charlotte Birsinger
Kevin, Renee & Griffin Knee**
Joan Glover-Carter
Richard Giordano Family
Ken & Kay Madison Family
Alyce Williamson Family
Sandi Genser-Maack & Lynn Maack**
Jeff & Barbara Ward Family
Karen Shaw
Penny McGee Canario
Donna Wilson**
Olivia Jacobs**
Erica Goode**
Mary Simmons
Jo Ann Cannon
Gary Shows Family
Grace & Jerry Cerkowicz, Sr.
Pam Wilson
George Coles
Pat Pearson

A warm welcome to new members:

Steve Shank
John Lizarraga Family
Joyce Allemang*
Damon Kiehn & Amanda Kinley
Family*
Carol Kiehn*
Lynne Erskine & Richard Tapp Family*

Elfriede Morris*
Don & Ingrid Lindemann Family*
Alexis Lane Jensen*
Gary Massey*
*Gift Membership
**Special Member, Thank You!

Thank You!

Santa Fe Market and Point Richmond Market

For selling

“THIS POINT.....in time”

For us

Winter Museum Hours:

Saturday 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Thursday 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

***Thanks to the Volunteers who open and
close our museum two days each week***

Ann Bartram
Pat Pearson
Mid Dornan
Bonnie Jo Cullison
Susan Brooks
Margaret Morkowski
Dee Rosier
Heinz Lankford

The Cover:

***Point Richmond Triangle Park
Indian Statue***

Cover story on page 12

Photo by Gary Shows

Editor's Notes

Gary Shows (510-235-1336)

Busy time for me, I am trying to retire from my 105 year old office supply business that I have spent the last 41 years taking care of daily. I have learned that it is not so easy to retire from a small business that you own in a rapidly changing industry. But it is happening!

I thought of this cover story when one day, while in the Triangle Park I overheard a Point Richmond resident explain to a visitor that the Indian Statue had been there for over a hundred years. I decided then that I wanted to tell the statue's story in TPIT. Since Point Richmond History Association founder Donna Roselius was instrumental in bringing us the statue I called her and asked her to write the story for TPIT. She did, I thank her, and now readers can know that this downtown centerpiece replaces a fountain/statue that was erected over a hundred years ago. Page 12.

Look for more on Brooks Island from George Coles in the next issue!

Thanks much to contributors who at my request were very timely with their articles.

The deadline for articles and items for the next issue is May 31, 2013.

Volunteers at our last mailing party:

Pam Wilson

Jerry Cerkowicz

Gary Shows


Kathe Kiehn

Heinz Lankford

Pat Pearson

George Coles

Tom Piazza

 **I stayed up all night to see
where the sun went, then it
dawned on me!**

Thank You!

Our Special Supporters!

History Makers

Doug & Rosemary Corbin

Kathe Kiehn

Diane & Gordon Hirano

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Umesh & Debra Kurpad

Roberta & Richard Palfini

Rachel Palfini

Patricia Dornan

Donna Wilson

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Jim & Olivia Jacobs

Burlington Willes

Norm and Jean Reynolds

Linda Newton

H. Abigail Bok

Tom & Shirley Butt

Erica Goode

A-Mid Trivia

Mid Dornan (510-234-5334)

Q: In 2011, what was the cost and benefit of a college degree?

ANSWER at end of Trivia

When you put ‘the’ and ‘IRS’ together, it spells ‘THEIRS’.

The average person laughs about 15 times a day.

Ah! Spring in Point Richmond! When have the blooms, the flowers, the colors been more beautiful, intense or profuse.

Ohhh... those dazzling, dancing bay bridge lights! More than 25,000 Led lights, placed 12” apart and inter-connected with wiring, have been attached to 300 of the bridges vertical suspender cables. Placed so they don’t shine in bridge driver’s view. Software generated patterns of light shimmer across the 1.8 mile stretch between Yerba Buena Island and S. F. from dusk to 2 a.m. nightly for 2 years. Patterns do not repeat and are visible from many Point Richmond vistas.

Linda Andrews-Marshall was honored as Sweetheart of the Year at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club by the First United Methodist Church. Many facets of her life were revealed, true or false!. Congratulations!

A movie house in Point Richmond? The Magick Lantern is a hidden, 35-seat theater at 125 Park Place. Check times for shows and times and enjoy the popcorn. Enter on the left side of Starbucks. Enjoy!

Seventy five new citizens , representing 33 countries, were welcomed recently in the Rosie the Riveter Craneway building.

The average number of meals eaten AT HOME in 2007 was 870. The average number in 2012 was 902!

CHEERS! The Farmer’s Market will be back for another season thanks to the Point Richmond Business Association for volunteering to work making it possible. This year the market is on Thursdays, 3 - 7p.m. beginning May 9th. Be sure to support the market so it keeps coming. Remember those strawberries and other fruit..Yumm.

In 1923 a Luigi Damasio came from Italy to Point Richmond to visit his friend Clemente Parella and Clemente's mother Luisa Parella. Does anyone recall anything about any of these people? Valerio Damasio, lives in the same Italian town as from where Luigi Damasio came, has contacted the History Association and would like to know if anyone can help with information.

If you wonder who cracks the pistachio nuts you see in markets, it’s the trees. The shells crack naturally when the kernel inside grows large enough.

Welcome home John Lizarraga. It is official when you re-subscribe to TPIT!

The former Altura restaurant on W. Richmond Avenue has moved to Tewksbury Avenue and opened as AKY’s Cafe on April 3rd. Support our local businesses.

Have you tried the new Catahoula coffee?

Jean Allyn, Sonoma, had lunch at the Hotel Mac with friends.

There are no longer toll takers on the Golden

Gate bridge but that doesn't mean the toll has ceased. You can use your Fastrax or you will be billed electronically. (There are many questions Caltrans knows that I don't)

Jazz is often described as American music. Advocates for "Sacred Jazz" in church say this is music that appeals across generations. The Rev. Dan Damon at Point Methodist Church, a hymn composer as well as a pianist, finds ways to work jazz into his Sunday services feeling hymn texts by Methodist Founders, Charles and John Wesley, blend into jazz treatment. Dan is one of several featured in the February 2013 issue of the United Methodist Reporter, a weekly periodical out of Tennessee.

And, Dan will present a concert benefit, on Saturday, April 20, at the Methodist Church. and will be using his many talents on the keyboard, Indian Flute, Guitar, etc.

David Reynolds recently performed in "The Farm", an adaptation of George Orwell's 'Animal Farm' presented by Laney College Arts in the Fusion Theater project.

Kangaroos cannot move their legs independently.

When was the last time you received a half dollar in change? The coin seems strange but wonder why it isn't used more often as it replace TWO coins giving you the option of less coins in the pocket.

According to U.S. laws, a beer commercial can never show a person actually drinking beer.

If you bought a new vehicle this past year, chances are high it was white or silver.

It costs two pennies to mint one penny and ten cents to mint each nickel. Why are they still in use? Approval to "get rid" of a coin would need Congress to halt production minting of coin and its

distribution to Federal Reserve Banks after giving businesses time to collect the coin. However, the coin would remain legal tender.

Did you know Ushers at Carnegie Hall carry free cough drops?

Barbara Haley spent several weeks in Phoenix, assisting her sister, Linda, with a broken shoulder.

Use our resourceful Branch Library on Washington Avenue. Children's Story Hours are Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Traveling out-of-town this year?

Whether it is by car, plane, train, plan ahead. Find out what your insurance covers. Take a photo of your suitcase and its contents by spreading everything out on a bed. Make a copy of all your travel documents-passport, plane tickets, itinerary, hotel reservations. Leave one set behind with someone, and a set in your luggage. Give credit card issuers your travel dates and bring two credit cards, have a main one, the other a back up. Include toll-free numbers if you lose a card. Travel as a couple? Each of you can carry a different card. Use a bank ATM in well-lit public places. And, booking a room? Call the hotel directly instead of the 800 number for a better negotiating price. Enjoy your travels.

Sweet Potatoes can aid in sleeping. Not only do they provide sleep promoting complex carbohydrates, they also contain a muscle relaxant.

He who gossips to you will gossip of you.

ANSWER:

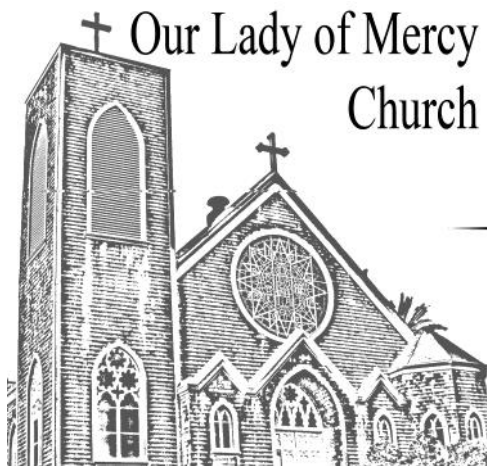
In 2011, \$23,000 was the average student debt at graduation.

66% of students graduated with debts.

20% increase in numbers of parents filling out the FAFSA.

\$1.5 million, average gap in lifetime earning potential between high school and college graduates (with a bachelor's degree)

Church News



† Our Lady of Mercy
Church

By Dee Rosier
510-232-1387

drosier@sbcglobal.net

It was a first and not one to be proud of. For the first time in my life as the Church News contributor, I missed my mark and was unable to deliver. Please accept my apologies.

To recap what I had anticipated writing, we'll go back to the end of the year and what at that time was news and indeed needs mention.

We celebrated Christmas in our lovely holiday decorated parish and welcomed those we do not always see on a regular basis, but are always welcome. Thanks is extended to those who gave of their time to clean the church prior to the Christmas festivities. Father is into music, consequently we always enjoy the best when it comes to musicians – Christmas is always celebrated as a special musical occasion. We were fortunate to have soprano, Elizabeth Hertzberg, grace us with her presence and entertain us in a musical recital. Elizabeth continues to study music in Milan and we always look forward to her visits and her lovely voice – we are never disappointed.

At last the office of Parish Council secretary

has been filled. Thank you Penny Crowe for stepping up to the plate and completing the Council.

Our Parish continues to welcome newcomers. If you would like to formally register, forms are available at the entry of the church. Known to be the latest new additions, we welcome John and Terry Lizarraga.

John's dad is long-time Point resident, Hector Lizarraga.

As the year begins, new envelopes are available for weekly offering. You will also find envelopes available for those wishing to commence new weekly donations.

Clothes continue to be collected for the needy and you may either leave them at the church hall door or the entry way to the church. There are always those less fortunate who we should always assist.

In a very impressive ceremony, Father welcomed new Eucharistic Minister Sean Diaz and also bestowed the same honor on: Brenda McKinley, Tom Boone, Anne Brussock, and Dee Rosier. Sean is the youngest minister and his joining us assures our parish of its future.

The Bible Study group meets in the church hall on Thursdays at 1PM. Future meetings will be on the third Thursday of each month.

The parish web page will soon be complete. Father is requesting pictures of parish life to be included.

As you know the first Sunday of the month is coffee/donuts Sunday. During a recent anticipated morning, Brenda McKinley's power went out and she was unable to fulfill her duty as the pick-up-donut lady. Martin Lopez came to the rescue and we enjoyed our usual Sunday morning treat. Since I will be unable to fulfill my duty along with Brenda, during my recovery period, I will be represented by my granddaughter, Jennifer Rosier.

Thanks to the generosity of the Gateway Foundation, we have financially been able to restore

much of the church's heritage. The latest is the granting for replacement of the ugly cyclone fence on the side of the rectory.

The Council reviewed the proposal for re-shingling the two weather-worn sides of the rectory. When it begins will depend on weather conditions and the schedule of the worker. The job will be done by the same person who did the shingling of the church.

The Station of the Cross that fell has now been completely restored and painted.

It has been a while, but Fr. George Mockel, the vicar general of the diocese confirmed ten young men and women at our parish. A reception hosted by family members followed in the church hall. We also witnessed the baptism of the Wong's grandson.

It is old news, but worth a drive up Montana Street to see the political sign urging one to vote for Donna Powers for City Council. It provided a good laugh.

We are a dog community and most times we can remember the dog's name before the owner's comes to mind. We recently mourned the death of Ginger, the Wilson family beagle. We welcome their latest, Gypsy, who we will all grow to love.

Congratulations to Jean Stark who recently achieved the age of 90. Jean is a native of Richmond and was married at Our Lady of Mercy to John Stark, a Pt. Richmond native. Jean was a member of the St. Cornelius Mother's Club and in looking around the church recognized several other members: Betty Sindicich, Lee Narvaez and myself – not to mention Shirley Gerk, Marilyn Darling and Mary Jo Giacomelli.

Welcome to new Idaho Street resident, Hamish Richard Alan Duff, born December 5th, the son of Elizabeth and James Duff. He is the younger brother to three older sisters.

They never really leave us permanently because you just never know when one will see a familiar parish face return – we are speaking of Cynthia Young and Rod and Joni Phillips, who recently graced us with their presence at a Sunday

mass.

Condolences to the family of Kathryn Ostrander and Fredericka Giacomelli.

We were honored to have the funeral mass for Karen Mays at Our Lady of Mercy. Karen was the daughter of parishioners James and Darlene Byers (deceased).

Continue to pray for John Gerk, Frank and Dixie Mello, Bill Smith and Al Frosini.

There are insufficient words to express my thanks for all of the cards, calls, and concern during my recent surgery. One does not consider the value of their community until exhibited in a grand act of kindness. You are the best!

Happy Belated Birthday grandson, Griffin – enjoy the teen years.

Bible – Basic Information Before Leaving Earth

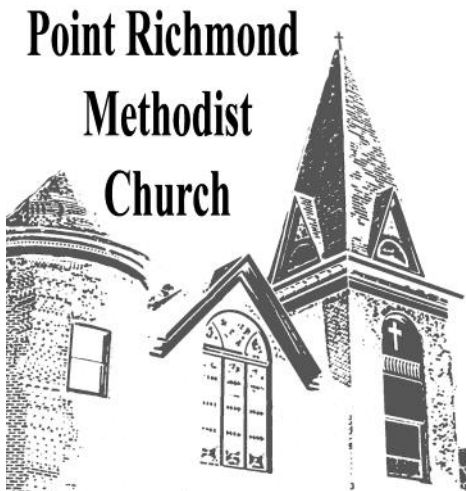
See you in church.

Come on by the museum and see
our new 42" slide show of our
historic photo collection.

Thanks to a Gateway Foundation
Grant.



*Fantastic fried chicken!
But don't go, it closed years ago*



For 2013 *By Jean Reynolds*
510-235-2988

jeanormr@pacbell.net

We honored Linda Andrew-Marshall as our sweet-sixteenth Sweetheart of the Year on March 22. We thought we knew all about Linda until the parade of speakers began to tell all the ways she was a sweetheart to them. Special guests included Linda's cousin Marcy Luek; her childhood friend Lynn Reid Brennen; Barbara Friday, who Linda met soon after moving to Richmond; Jean Knox; Pastor Dan Damon; David Vincent; and Pat Nelson. Linda's brother's accolades came by letter: he memorized the lyrics to many musicals because Linda let him turn the pages when she practiced. Jean Knox told about how Linda sublimely mothered twins Aaron and Michael. Jean expressed comments about Linda from Pat Herron, kept home with an illness. David Vincent said Linda could be described by "all the good words in the Bible." Eileen Johnson, accompanied by Pat King, sang an adaptation of "I Could Have Danced All Night" with lyrics Pastor Dan wrote to praise Linda. Tom Butt emceed and told a brace of lawyer jokes: he claimed as a legal secretary, Linda bears "guilt by association" with attorneys. Fran Smith, hospitality specialist, orchestrated the

event. Ingrid Hogan, member at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club, planned and prepared the food, the tastiest meal ever. The Joyful Noise choir and friends sang "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" as the party came to a close. *[Many thanks to Bethany Reynolds for her detailed notes of the evening!]*

On Sunday, January 27, Pastor Dan stayed home with laryngitis. In his absence, Jean Reynolds spoke about the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP) annual meeting held the previous Sunday. Luckily, the meeting was a newsy one with lots of inspirational stories about all of the lives being changed by people who volunteer or are served by programs sponsored by GRIP.

Sunday, February 17, Jean Reynolds explained the Western Methodist Justice Movement: a nascent group of clergy and lay people in the Western Jurisdiction recently sprung out of some gatherings in San Diego, Lafayette and Las Vegas. Participants act to implement justice within the church and society on issues such as reproductive health, immigration reform, full equality of LGBT persons, and radical hospitality.

Robbie Robinson joined the church February 17, and wowed us all by singing a solo afterward. Robbie is already a cherished member of the tenor section. His technical expertise has opened new possibilities for ways we can share music and other information online.

The United Methodist Women plan to collect items and make health kits for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, or UMCOR, before Annual Conference in June. The kits contain basic toiletries and are distributed to people who are forced to leave their homes due to disaster. Women from Richmond First UMC hosted the West Contra Costa County chapter of Church Women United on March 7 for World Day of Prayer.

People and Places: After a brutal battery of treatments, Linda Pereira got a "no active tumors" diagnosis! She and Pat Dornan celebrated the welcome news with a winter vacation to sunny

Florida. Doreen Leighton bought a home in Point Richmond and will soon be a neighbor here. Barbara Haley spent two weeks in Arizona to help her sister Linda recover from shoulder surgery.

Laurie Lewis and the Right Hands filled the sanctuary and all of the extra chairs in Friendship Hall at the Point Richmond Acoustic Series concert March 8. Open seating tickets were available in advance, but some ticket holders arrived too late to find a seat. It was SRO! Point Richmond Acoustic has provided a steady supply of talented singer songwriters in concert in our community. It enriches the cultural climate of our little village and provides us with live local entertainment. Two concerts remain in the current season. They are listed on the calendar below.

Some of the area United Methodist Churches - Pinole, Good Shepherd, St. Luke's, El Cerrito, El Sobrante and Richmond First - celebrated Good Friday at El Sobrante UMC. The choirs of several of the churches sang two pieces, one directed by Pastor Dan Damon and the other by Eileen Johnson. Dancers Circle interpretive dance ensemble expressed their response to the ancient story.

Have you noticed the new paint on the picket fence around the churchyard? Thanks to Jonathan Swett and German Alvarez, the fence looks better than when it was new! All of the decaying places are now filled, smooth, sealed and painted. What fine results can be realized with skill and careful attention to detail! Tom Sawyer didn't know what he missed.

On the Calendar:

Saturday, April 20, 7:30 pm, Dan Damon in Concert: Come hear Dan play jazz standards, gospel, and hymns from his recently published collection, *Garden of Joy* on piano, Native American flute, and guitar. Pastor Dan is internationally known as a hymn writer and jazz musician. He has performed jazz standards in several major hotels in the Bay Area and currently plays at Hotel Mac on Friday evenings. Your \$10 donation benefits the church.

Sunday, April 28, Marine Mammal Center tour,

Sausalito. Debbie Benko, a regular volunteer at the Marine Mammal Center arranged for us to take a private docent-led tour at 3 pm. After a picnic lunch, visitors will see the facilities and patients. Underweight sea lion pups now crowd the center because of an unexplained failure of this season's pups to thrive. Stop by the church on a Sunday morning before April 28 to sign up for the tour.

May 4, Junktique Sale - A day of unbelievable bargains on an amazing variety of useful items. Enjoy lunch and pie-by-the-slice. Have items to donate? Recycle your good, usable, gently used household items, appliances, toys, furniture, books, art, and more. In April, volunteers will be in the basement to receive items on Tuesday evenings 7-8:30 pm and Saturday mornings 10-12 am. Call Bill Thompson (510) 232-4155 to arrange for larger items to be picked up. This is our largest fund-raiser of the year and we need your help to make it a success!

May 27 Masquers' All Point Richmond Yard Sale and First UMC's Junktique II sale. Stop by the basement to see what great deals you can snag. Fortify yourself for a day of shopping at our Pancake Breakfast in Friendship Hall. Pancakes hot off the grill will be served 8:00 to 11:00 AM. A plate of 'Boy Scout Recipe' fluffy buttermilk pancakes made from scratch, sausages, juice and coffee or tea is only \$6.

June 8, United Methodist Women Tea. Details to follow on the church website.

Point Richmond Acoustic Concerts:

April 12, Bill Evans and his show, The Banjo In America, at 8 pm. Tickets are available at the door for \$15. Come early for the best seats: doors open at 7:30.

May 12, 8 pm, Chris Webster & Nina Gerber

For updates to the calendar see the website:
pointrichmond.com/methodist/



WWIC, Est. 1908

Kathleen Wimer

News from the Women's Westside Improvement Club

At our February meeting, the Women's Westside Improvement Club – consistent with our name and mission - donated \$1,200 to six different organizations working to improve things on the Point. We also had fun introducing ourselves. Some members allowed they had lived in Point Richmond “forever” or for “eons.” One sixty year resident admitted joining WWIC only last year. Many shared our appreciation of WWIC and what a great group of women it is.

February hostesses Marge Harmon (group chair), Mid Dornan, and Pat Pearson decked out the Fellowship Hall at the First United Methodist Church, where we meet, with all kinds of hearts and cupids and decorated festive cupcakes to match the Valentine's theme. Marion Kent, our intrepid first vice president, requested volunteers to host the March meeting. Altha Humphrey and Grethe Frederick spoke right up. In March, they decorated around a St. Patrick's Day theme and with beautiful white camellias in anticipation of spring. The dessert was homemade cakes prepared by Alyce Williamson.

Linda Newton kicked off the February announcements. She told us about a new movie theatre called The Magick Lantern, 125 Park Place behind Starbucks, which shows movies Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights with a Sunday matinee. Kathe Kiehn announced that Masquers' Playhouse began its new season which runs through December 7. Info can be accessed at www.masquers.org. Lauri Nova Andres, whose teething son, Sammy, once again graced our meeting, announced her tenth year managing Nova Studio full time. Kathy Branstetter mentioned The WELL, a web site she has been involved with for a long time. The site says, “The WELL is a cherished destination for conversation and discussion. It is widely known as the

primordial ooze where the online community movement was born — where Howard Rheingold first coined the term ‘virtual community.’”

Altha Humphrey said Knit ‘n’ Such meets at the Community Center the first Wednesdays of every month from 12:30 to 2:30. Everyone is welcome. Altha suggested the status of Arts for Point Richmond was undetermined, but we later learned from Altha (at the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council) that they've organized an exhibition and sale for Saturday, May 4 at the Community Center from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and they have placed various artists' works at five establishments around town. Mary Lee Cole encouraged people with arthritis and pain to join a physical fitness program happening at the Richmond Hilltop Family YMCA from February 14 to April 9 from 11 – 12 Tuesdays and Thursdays. Participants do not have to join the “Y.” Mary Lee also announced Lunafest, Short Films by, for, about Women held in February at the Craneway Pavilion; and Mary Lee told us about the United Methodist Church women collecting change so kids at GRIP (Greater Richmond Interfaith Program) can have milk.

Mid Dornan announced that the Point Richmond History Association now has a new electronic picture frame that contains a slideshow of the history of Point Richmond, made possible through a grant from the Gateway Foundation. Pat Person announced the City Historic Preservation Commission applications for annual historic preservation awards. Kathleen Wimer reported the Richmond City Council had selected Jael Myrick to fill the vacancy left because Gary Bell's illness prevented him from taking the seat on the Council to which he was elected in November.

President Norma Wallace announced

birthdays, including: January 5, Mary Highfill; January 4, Sonja Malaga; January 9, Altha Humphrey; February 10, Maggie LaForce; February 13, Nancy Struck; and February 24, Calvert Barrows. Norma also discussed our need to recruit new members. With the farmers' market threatened, we would no longer have a booth there, which has been our means of outreach in recent years. Happily, by the end of March, we hear the farmers' market gets a reprieve and will be held every Thursday, beginning May 9.

About the rose garden and landscaping at the Indian Statue Park, Norma said we need a new point person and that anyone interested should contact her. Don't you know, by the March meeting, a committee of Altha Humphrey and Susan Brooks, headed up by Diane Marie, had met with Lisa Graves from the City Parks Department. (See photo.) The city will install drip irrigation and do planting where needed. Irises will be planted now, and the rest will be done in fall.

Norma reported that past president Margaret Morkowski indicates the new Point Richmond map should be delivered this spring. Margaret also agreed to send Norma an electronic file of the cook book.

The president then asked for ideas for our annual February donations to organizations working to improve Point Richmond. We agreed to fund:

- Scholarships so kids can join "Richmond Sailfish" the swimming group for those aged 5 to 18, info at www.richmondswims.org/richmond-sailfish - \$250.
- Many Hands at Washington School - \$200
- United Methodist Church brick pointing project - \$250
- Pt. Richmond Summer Music series - \$100
- Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church fence project - \$200
- An ad in Masquers' Playhouse program - \$200

As your humble reporter was away in March, mention of that meeting's activities comes via stalwart WWIC member, Linda Newton. She reports that President Norma Wallace appointed

both a nominating committee and a committee to help formulate the ad we agreed to place in the program distributed to patrons of Masquers' Playhouse.

Our special March guest, Lois Boyle, embodied the character of an archetypal Rosie from Oklahoma. She was riveting (ha, ha). Her clear voice rang through the hall. She also answered questions about the history of bringing the Red Oak Victory Ship back to Richmond where it was built.

The April 2 noon meeting will be our annual white elephant exchange, where we begin raising money again for the worthy projects we hope to fund next year.



Lisa with Linda Newton

How Point Richmond's Indian Statue Came to Be

By Donna Roselius

Even though the statue that stands proudly at the apex of Point Richmond's downtown triangle is barely twenty-nine years old, he is part of a story that began in 1909.

Since our statue is unique, we will tell his story first. He began as a plan to resurrect the original statue that was carried away by city crews to become part of the metal needed in transport and weaponry production.

Sometime in 1981, the Point Richmond Business Association asked Rod Garrett (a resident landscape designer and President of Inter-Arts of Marin) to volunteer his time to redesign the Point of the Triangle.

Garrett remembered seeing a photo of the original statue and conceived the idea to rebuild it. Encouraged by friends, and with the help of many residents, support began with two community meetings. Three committees formed: a grant writing and fund raising committee, a research committee and a community concerns and public relations committee.

With the endorsement and approval by the Business Association, the City Council, and the Mayor's office, an initial fund-raising party was held. A survey of the community showed that the majority of residents were in favor of a reproduction of the original statue rather than a contemporary version of an Indian.

It was fortunate that Rod Garrett was president of the non-profit and tax-exempt corporation, Inter-Arts of Marin, whose purpose it was to design and execute public art projects. Its Board of Directors approved the statue, and included it in its plans for 1982-1983 along with a stainless steel sculpture for

the entrance to Albert Park in San Rafael and a wall relief for the Corte Madera Recreation Center.

By March of 1982, the San Francisco Foundation allocated \$11,250 for the project, and support was promised by the Skaggs Foundation in Oakland. Other support was being offered by



Sculptor Kirk St. Maur in his studio

AT&T and PG&E. Chevron Corporation donated bronze; Carlos Garza offered foundation designs, and the City of Richmond provided a ten-foot granite base.

Inter-Arts chose sculptor Kirk St. Maur (who had studios in Italy, Illinois and San Francisco) to “replicate” the statue.

Cooperation among many organizations, individuals, corporations, and agencies in addition to the leadership of Inter-Arts was almost unprecedented in Richmond. Two years after the plan’s inception, the Indian Statue and the mini-park were well on their way to becoming a reality.

By summer of 1983, engineering plans donated by Interactive Resources had been approved by the City Building Regulations Department. Chevron USA hired a contractor to recover the ten-foot pedestal and prepare it for its role as a platform for the statue.

Also by summer of ’83, presidency of Inter-Arts went from Rod Garrett to Kerry Vandermeer and then to Susan Pontius. The changes required little more than contract revisions and orientation of the new officers.

JUST THREE YEARS LATER.....

A special preview party was held in February of 1984, in Richmond’s new Marina. Sculptor Kirk St. Maur displayed his ‘first draft’, which had appeared in publicity photos, as well as the final model, a truly majestic figure, carrying out the historically significant aspect of ‘replicating’ the original statue, while at the same time, according to the people who had been acquainted with the original, improving on it. The event drew



*Kirk St. Maur with Susan Pontius and
Donna Roselius (sitting)*

participants from throughout the Bay Area.

In a March, 1984, letter from Susan Pontius of Inter-Arts, she reported that only about \$300 remained to be paid, except for an unexpected expense of about \$3,000 for moving and installing the base. Evidently that problem was solved by the October deadline.

St. Maur, the sculptor, was featured in a one-man exhibit at the John Pence Gallery in San Francisco, during the month of June.

Excitement and enthusiasm were evident in the contributions received. The successful completion was celebrated on October 20, 1984, Indian Statue Dedication Day,

75 years and 46 days after the original “Dedication of the Fountain”, was a day filled with events and exhibits.

Besides a raffle (there always has to be a raffle) that included a night at East Brother Light Station, a night at a Bed and Breakfast Inn, and many merchandise prizes, the day was filled with events. A “Point to Point Fun Run” treated participants to whatever special food or beverage each restaurant on the way had to offer. An Arts and Crafts Fair filled the space available in the Triangle, and a Peddlers’ Faire with miscellaneous offerings took up any extra space. There was continuous entertainment, mini tours, an antique car show, and historic displays in the Community Center. The Masquers provided entertainment, and a PTA Carnival filled the needs of younger celebrants. The unprecedented cooperation of local businesses, City departments, groups and individuals, paved the way for future annual “Indian Statue Days”.

(Continued on page 16)

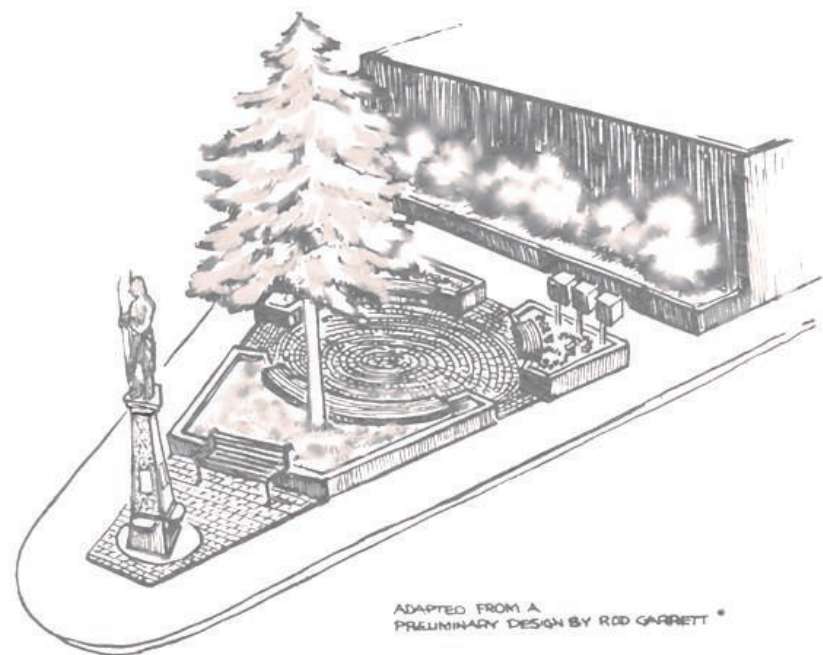


left, Rod Garrett's preliminary design drawing of today's park.

above, statue/fountain dedication ceremonies, PRHA photo archive #0251-DC

above right street scene, Washington Avenue, PRHA archive photo #0080-DC-THM, enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh.

right, modern view of #0080 above, photo by Gary Shows





(Continued from page 13)

ON TO THE PAST.....

We have, thanks to the West Side Women's Improvement Club, an accurate account of the original Indian Statue, even though it was not thought of as a statue. Because its intent and importance was as a source of drinkable water for animals as well as humans, it was originally referred to as a fountain.

The fountain and its adorning Indian stood in the Triangle until one night in 1943, when, according to local knowledge, the statue fell off its base during a storm. We will add a bit to that "local knowledge" since a person with first hand information insisted that the following story was factual: One night, (stormy or not), a bar patron got into his truck, and backed into the fountain. The impact was great enough to dislodge the Indian, which fell to the ground. Next morning, the statue was reported by someone, and city crews arrived to remove it. Wartime concerns were far more important than a wounded Indian statue, so

everyone assumed that he gave his metal to the "war effort".

The fountain remained in use until the Triangle renovation during the 1960s, when the Community Center, the Library, and the Fire Station were constructed.

The west Side Women's Improvement Club did not forget the landmark which had been their responsibility years before. They formed a committee in the 1950s which asked the City to renovate the fountain and possibly find a new Indian to place on it. An article in the Richmond Independent in March, 1956, states "The Club is urging the City to restore the fountain. Mrs. Gnaga has offered her help and that of the Club in the project. Albert C. White, assistant public works director, proposed that two of the three drinking fountains at the base of the landmark could be transformed into planters. A new Indian might be obtained and the lights at the top could be repaired. He's doubtful, though, about the horse trough at the front. "Don't think there's too much demand for that service nowadays."



How the Original Indian Statue and Fountain Came to Be

**A story by Donna Roselius reprinted
from "THIS POINT" Vol. I, No. 6,
February, 1983**

THE INDIAN, A MYSTERY UNVEILED

A part of Point Richmond history which has assumed monumental proportions, partly due to its mysterious birth and demise, is the 'Indian Statue'. Standing like a sentinel at the juncture of Washington Avenue and Park Place for thirty-four years, its presence was so taken for granted that when, in 1943, it tumbled over in a storm, little note was made of its disappearance. Its fountain base remained until the early '60's, when the Triangle was renovated.

Last year, (ed. 1982) the Point Richmond Business Association asked Rodd Garrett to redesign the tip of the Triangle. Garrett, President of Inter-Arts of Marin (an organization that coordinates design and execution of Public Art Projects) conceived the idea of replicating the old Indian Statue.

With its proposed resurrection came a renewed curiosity about the Indian's origin. Although it was known that the West Side Improvement Club had provided the original statue, none of the Club's charter members remain to tell its story. However, Virginia Bryant, present Secretary of the Club, found the minutes of its 1908-09 meetings and thanks to her and the club, we have been able to piece together the following account:

On August 11, 1908, a committee, consisting of Mrs. McHenry, Mrs. Cowan and Mrs. Peard was appointed to see S.J. Futter, whose department store and residence were located at the corner of Washington Avenue and Park Place, about placing a fountain at that intersection. (They were also asked to petition the Water Company to blow a whistle at least 30 minutes before turning off the water.) Another committee was appointed to

"interview the people of the Methodist Episcopal Church about placing a drinking fountain at the corner of the church."

At the August 18 Meeting, "Mrs. Peard reported that Mr. Futter would be willing to pay half the expense of putting up a fountain...if Mr. Katchinski the owner of the property would pay half...The Secretary was instructed to write to...Mr. Katchinsk." Mrs. Gibbons reported, "that the committee had talked with the M.E. Church people about a drinking fountain at the corner of the M.E. Church and that they were very willing that the ladies should utilize the natural spring at that corner but that if anything was done it would have to be done at once as it would interfere with the work of building it later.

In the search for suitable fountains and sites for fountains, members investigated reports on fountains in Martinez and Woodland, a free fountain offered by the Humane Society, and a small fountain with a cement trough for horses that could be obtained for \$50.00. A committee was appointed "to investigate the subject of placing drinking hydrants in several places on the streets." but interest gradually concentrated on acquiring just one large fountain.

Mrs. Curry reported on September 22, that she had secured "the Catalogue of Fountains and price list. The subject of fountains was laid over to allow Mrs. Curry to write the firm for further particulars." Mrs. Peard reported that she "had talked with Mr. Katchinski regarding a fountain at the corner of his property and that he was willing to give \$25.00 towards its cost. She informed him that we should expect a larger donation from him.

In October, letters from J.L. Mott Iron Works were received, "with the blueprint of a fountain such as we would like to have." and, at the October 13 meeting, the Club voted to "take up for our year's work the securing and placing of a fountain, establishment of a reading room and improvement of the little park near the Baptist church.

On the chance that J.L. Mott Iron Works might have been local, we asked the Library to look in

1909 directories. J.L. Mott was located in San Francisco, in the Lick Building. Virginia Kennedy of the Richmond Library managed to find the Most Metalurgical Company, now located in Farmington, Connecticut. A representative of the company should contact her soon, to possibly ascertain whether the company's records (and blueprints) go back to 1909!

To raise money for a large fountain, the Club had a "Tag Day". Tags and districts were "assigned the different members for distribution." The Club raised \$184.35, but we have not been able to find out what a "Tag Day" was.

Mr. Futter donated his \$100, and Mr. Katchinski, true to his word, sent only \$25. The Club decided to have a "trip around the world in automobiles" to raise more money, and appointed several ladies to "take charge of the starring station," but again we are at a loss to know what this event was; however, within a week, \$94.25 was netted from the fund-raiser.

On March 16, 1909, Mrs. Topping reported that "the Fountain Committee had decided upon the style of fountain they wanted and had written for prices on same." Minutes of the following meetings mention communications from J.L. Mort Iron Works at each meeting. On July 6, their letter was "in regard to inscription to be placed on fountain." At no time was there any indication, however, that the Club discussed the design of the

Fountain, and no mention was ever made about the subject of the statue. - i.e., the Indian.

Plans were made to have the unveiling of the Fountain lat in July, but it did not arrive until late in August. The unveiling took place on September 4, 1909, with 1,000 people present, Mrs. L.D. Dimm unveiled the Fountain, and Mrs. S.R. Curry gave the address. Fisks Band of Oakland played, and there were speeches by local dignitaries.

Bills mentioned in the minutes include:

Fountain:	\$800.00
Freight on Fountain:	\$173.65
Geo. Dimick, freight:	\$ 1.44
Bal. on Fountain:	\$ 87.86
Total	\$1,062.85

Don Church's notes state a total of \$1074.80, which is \$11.95 higher, but we can't find any other bills in the minutes.

The Club asked the People's Water Co. for free water for the Fountain. Letters received at the time included a "letter from Mr. Younglove, Secretary of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children and Animals, thanking the Club for the beautiful fountain which was erected for the benefit of man and animals, and a letter from Mr. Minner for the Merchants of Point Richmond, in appreciation for "the efforts the Club has put forth for the improvement and betterment of the City, and most sincerely appreciate the beautiful fountain, and to show their appreciation their places of business would be closed from 1 to 3 o'clock for the unveiling of the Fountain.



Statue unveiling, September 4, 1909. PRHA photo archive #0248-DC from Don Church, enhanced by Thomas Mercer-Hursh

*PRHA
Archive
photo #0677
from Mid
Dornan*



at the Masquers

The Life of Galileo

The Life of Galileo, the epic masterpiece by Bertolt Brecht, opens March 22 at Masquers Playhouse in Point Richmond. Arguably Brecht's greatest play, The Life of Galileo beautifully captures a brilliant discovery that changed the world. Armed with a telescope and a questioning mind, Galileo incites a war between reason and faith that challenges his own integrity. In a

translation by English playwright David Hare, this play is a spellbinding lesson in the consequences of genius. The cast includes Georgie Craig, Miranda Craig, Laura Domingo, Bruce Kaplan, Bill McClave, Simon Patton, Stanley Spenger, Matthew Surrence, John Terrell and Campbell Zeigler. Directed by Bruce Coughran.

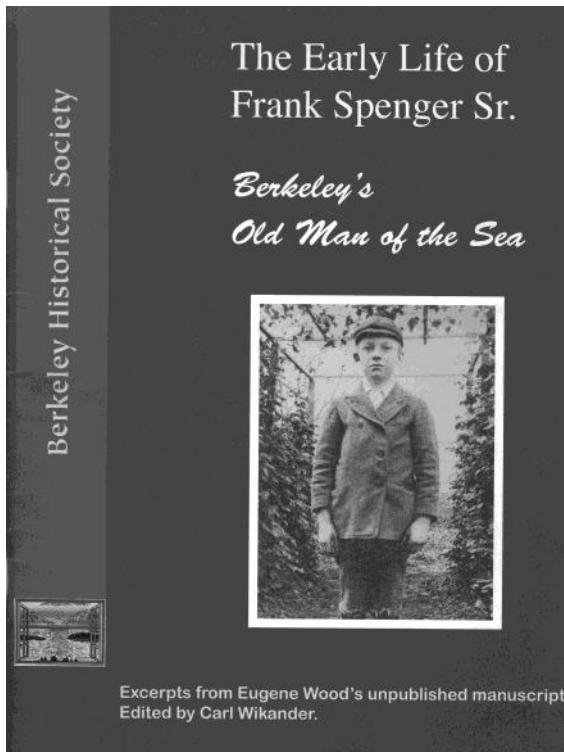


Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm with Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm on April 7 and April 14. The show plays through April 27. Tickets are \$22 and all seats are general admission. Tickets can be purchased on line at www.masquers.org or by calling (510) 232-4031. The playhouse is located off of Highway 580 (Richmond Parkway exit) at 105 Park Place, Point Richmond, across from the Hotel Mac.

A dinner benefit performance will be held on Sunday, April 21 at 2 pm. Dinner is at the Hotel Mac and tickets for this performance are \$50.



Thanks to PRHA member Burl Willes for a copy of the Berkeley Historical Society's publication about the early life of Frank Spenger Sr., of the legendary Spenger's Grotto restaurant. I thought our readers might enjoy this. This chapter takes up when very young Frank runs away from his Berkeley home to his aunt in Point Richmond. When he finds that the aunt has moved away he befriends locals that include a blacksmith and a "cathouse madam."



Sally put up with a certain amount of this, but only if it didn't interfere with the main purpose of her bawdy establishment. Carmen gave her the most trouble on this score and was a very difficult woman to deal with, especially since she assumed the attitude that the Duke came to Sally's solely for her companionship. It generally took a day or two after one of Duke's visits for Carmen to come down out of cloud nine and quit trying to ramrod the other girls.

When Sally figured it was time for the Duke to depart, she had a regular routine: she would wait until Frank arrived at the back door and send him for Fred and the buggy. In the meantime she

would go upstairs to Carmen's room and quietly pull down the covers from the loudly snoring couple. With the help of one of the other girls, they would gently slide the form of the sleeping Duke over to the side of the bed and try to get his "long johns" on, followed by his undershirt, shirt and trousers. By this time the ex-life of the party was generally sleepily protesting and grabbing desperately at the covers to get back in the bed. Sally would wait until she heard Frank knock on the back door to let her know the buggy had arrived. Then she would pour the Duke a shot of one hundred proof whiskey. This always got him on his feet, coughing and spluttering, and while he was in this condition, the two women would clap his derby on his head and hustle him downstairs, with his celluloid collar and tie stuffed in his coat pocket. For some reason, this always seemed to be the signal for the Duke to start singing again, and Sally had never been able to stop him.

Speed seemed to be the only tactic to employ, and it was quite a sight to see the two kimono-clad women practically giving him the bum's rush out the back door and along the walk to the buggy, while their protesting burden was shouting such things as:
"Unhand me, you wenches! Back to the harlot beds."

Or, he might break into a verse of "Lehigh Valley," which sent something like this:
"Twas down in Lehigh Valley
Where me and my partner, Lou
Were pimping for a whorehouse
And a God damned (gol darned) good one, too."

By this time, Fred and Frank had come to the women's rescue and helped the Duke aboard, after which a speedy drip down the alley and out of Point Richmond took place. Sally always counted

the Duke's money beforehand, holding back \$2.00 for the buggy rental. She would tell Fred how much he had, so that if he got rolled after leaving her place, at least she had witnesses that he left with his money. She would give the \$200 to Fred, who would then depart with the still-singing Duke and take him to an early-opening saloon near the ship basin by the S.P. freight shed.

Here, much to the displeasure of the grumpy bartender, he would help his passenger out and steer him towards the swinging door, which the Duke would approach with cries of delight and protestations of eternal brotherly love for the churlish type behind the mahogany. Occasionally, Fred would sneak a quick one, on the Duke, of course, but his recollection of the cussing out he had received from Mr. Sullivan a few months back was still fresh in his memory. Apparently, on that fateful morning, Fred had made the error of having more than one, not having had her breakfast before being hitched up to dual the Duke, had broken away after several hours and returned to the stable herself. Mr. Sullivan had promised a swift termination of Fred's services if it ever happened again.

Sally had other problem patrons, which, of course, was an occupational hazard of her business. The worst times were when other departing guests would come out of their mental fog and start hollering for collar, tie, hat, wallet, or some other possession that they might or might not have left upstairs. Woe betides any hustler working for Sally who lifted money or a wallet from a customer. This gave the joint a bad name, and anyway the victim quite often complained to the police, which was something all hard-working madams tried to keep to a minimum.

If Sally thought the departing guest had lost his wallet or money over and above the amount he would have spent for wine and the favors of one of the girls, Sally would immediately search the room and effects of the girl who had entertained him, and, if the incriminating evidence was found, the whore was lucky indeed if she was just dumped at the railroad station with a one-way ticket to San Francisco. Some of the madams in the bigger and

more classy joints had fancy men on their payrolls who were called in to work the girl over to the extent that she would not be able to ply her trade for some time until the assorted bruises, breaks, and black eyes were healed. After such an experience, a girl either quit the business or got the message. Sometimes they were forced to bustle on the streets afterwards, because the word would get around that they were trouble, and no madam would hire them. Generally, that was when their big trouble would start. Some pimp would muscle in on them, and lumps and ill treatment became a way of life.

This was all pretty precocious stuff for a young fellow of Frank's age, but he took it in stride. If his services as a messenger weren't required in the early morning at Sally's, he would return to the dairy, where sometimes he arrived soon enough to water Dan's horses. Two or three times a week he rode as far as the Italian couple's house, leaving fish and bringing back squash, parsley, onions, garlic, and other vegetables. Some of these he gave to Jim, but Sally took quite a few during the week too. There was a little Mexican café near the variety store where he could get menudo (tripe in Spanish sauce) for 10 cents, tacos for a nickel, stew and bread for a dime, and a big bowl of beans for 5 cents.

Fat old Julia, who ran the place with the help of her wispy little husband, Romero, always seemed to have five to eight grandkids running around on any given day. They had two daughters, who always had some sort of alliance with a man going, with or without the benefit of the clergy. Every so often it seemed, they would bring another grandchild around for mama to look after for a couple of days. Somehow, they never got around to picking them up very soon.

Between the milk and things from Jim at the dairy, and what he could buy at Julia's for 15 cents or 20 cents a day, Frank found that he got along very nicely. He was growing rapidly and getting very strong for his age. Frank being a born bargainer and peddler, it wasn't long before he was trading fish, and sometimes vegetable, to Julia for his meals. He always figured that the fish didn't

cost him anything, so he was way ahead of the game. Actually, he was a great help to the hard-pressed Julia and Romero. The food they gave Frank didn't cost them a dime a day, but the things he brought in return would have run the 75 cents or a dollar. So everyone was happy, except maybe the little grocery store owner where Julia usually bought most of her things.



*Parade down Washington Avenue, PRHA Photo Archive
#0428-DC from our Don Church Collection*

It had been April when Frank left Berkeley, and the days quickly ran into weeks. May had passed, and half of June was over. The schools would soon close for summer vacation. Frank thought about home quite often, but sometimes he would go a whole day and be so busy he wouldn't think of Berkeley once. He now actually had more than \$10 in small change hidden in a jar buried at the dairy. Things were going along fine when one day, when he was on an errand for some of the girls at Sally's, he saw a banner stretched across the street. It said that a giant 4th of July parade and celebration would be held there under the auspices of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. There would be floats, marching bands, and soldiers in uniform, followed by refreshments, games, and speeches in the park. Frank asked Jim about it the next morning.

"Sure,. Didn't you know we have one of them every year, put on by a different organization? It's our turn this time.

"Are you an Eagle, Jim?"

"Sure am. Have been one for twenty years. So's Dan. He's arranged to get his wagon painted, and Sullivan's fixin' some fancy doodads to go on the horses harness. They'll be in the parade."

"Does Dan haul his family in the wagon?"

"Naw - he's hauling one of the living displays. Admiral Farragut damming the torpedoes, I think."

"are you going to march in the parade, Jim?"

"Nope. It's mostly Civil War vets and 'Bamboos' from the Spanish-American War. They's generally a few old Indian fighters, too. You oughta save up and get a new pair of pants and a white shirt. They's gonna be a big barbecue and lemonade and things at the park for the Eagles and their families."

"Yeah, but I ain't no Eagle."

"Shucks, that don't matter. You can drift in with my kids. They'll never know the difference."

That afternoon Frank visited the blacksmith's shop. Mr. Sullivan showed him some of the shiny coaches and colored horsehair plumes to decorate Dan's team on the 4th. The most impressive piece of adornment was a two-foot plume to be mounted between the horse's ears, somewhat on the order of those sported on the helmets of the French cuirassiers as they bob along the Champs Elysees on state occasions.

The festive feeling built up during the last week of June. Kids could be seen playing as soldiers with wooden swords and their own make-believe parades as the big day drew near. Frank, had been taken into a store by Dan up near San Pablo Avenue and introduced to its owner. This was where he bought his new black stockings, knickers, and white shirt for \$2.25 taken from his money jar. He also did an errand for Lillian, the girl who played the piano at Sally's. She had asked if he could get her some muslin in three colors: red, white and blue. He liked Lillian. One day when he was cleaning fish in the kitchen, she told him she had a brother about his age who was in an orphanage.

continued in the next issue



TAKE THE INDIAN HEAD PENNY QUIZ

- I. The proud portrait on the Indian Head Penny is believed to be Chief Ouray, born in 1833 and known as a man of peace. He was appointed “head chief of the Utes” by the United States government.
- II. The Indian Head Penny was nicknamed a “copper” when it was introduced in 1859.
- III. Two different penny designs were minted in 1909.
- IV. The very first Indian Head Penny had a laurel wreath - not an oak wreath - on the back.
- V. The model for the portrait on the Indian Head Penny was the wife of engraver James B. Longacre.
- VI. 6. The American passion for pennies is stronger today than at any time in the past.

Answers to Indian Head Penny Quiz on page 26

Mid

Check out the Beautiful Plunge

There is a lot happening at the Richmond Natatorium these days!

Audiences were treated to a spectacular performance by the champion Walnut Creek Aquanuts on March 22nd. See the PRHA Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/prhafan) for a short video of the swimming event and “like” us to keep up with PRHA happenings

Here is the Richmond Swims Calendar of events for April/May

April 2013

***Sailfish & RPMasters
(See Meet Schedules)***

May 2013

***Our Afternoon at Walnut Creek Sports
Basement - TBA***

Sat or Sun, May 18th or 19th, 4 - 6 PM

***Annual Masquer's City-Wide Garage
Sale***

Mon., May 27th - All Day Event

For more events, various swimming programs
visit

www.richmondswims.org

GOING...GOING...VANISHING

In the next half-century many fixtures of today will be relegated to museums. What will be considered antiques? As electronic correspondence dries up the U.S. Postal service could be a mail delivery legend. Who remembers the twice daily mail delivery? Cursive (handwriting) has already been dropped in Hawaii, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio as an educational requirement.

Almost gone are answering machines, tube televisions, bank deposit slips, phone books, film, incandescent light bulbs, and road maps. Portable translation software will let us talk with anyone as both parties speak in their native languages. No passwords to remember as bio-metric facial software simply looks at your cell phone or tablet. Students are now using Kindles, replacing their text books. Think about it.

-Mid

Cards, Letters & E-Mails

Dear Pam,

I am sorry to inform you that Marilyn Eloise Church Grafft passed on June 16, 2012. I have enclosed a copy of her obituary in the event you wish to make note of this in future issues of TPIT. Marilyn's father and mother were Don and Marian Church. I don't know why that was not mentioned in the obituary. I was interested to note that Don's historic photos continue to appear in TPIT. Marilyn was preceded in death by both of her parents and her sister Patricia and brother Russ. She was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. She was the great love of my life and I miss her so much. You might note also that

she passed on our 61st anniversary.

I think you can take Marilyn's name off of your subscription list, however, she always found time to read the newsletter. She looked for names of old friends, friends of her family and pictures that her Dad took. She was always interested in what was happening in the Point.

Grace and peace

Bill Grafft
Santa Clara, CA

*Thank you for letting us know Bill. My very
best wishes to you.* Gary

EXCLUSIVE OVER 90 CLUB

Lupe Padilla Lopez - 99

Elfriede Morris - 94

Shoney Gustafson - 96

Jerry Cerkowicz, Sr. - 93

Grace Cerkowicz - 90

Steve Wyrick - 95

Madelilne Bellando Albright - 95

Mid Dornan - 91

Reva Ward 98

Al Frosini - 93

Bernard Dietz - 97

Charlotte Kermabon Birsinger - 95

Gretchen Van Tassel Shaw - 93

Viola Lala Kennedy - 93

Lee Christian - 93

Delphina Franco Tawney - 94

Eunice Ruth Hursh - 94

George Coles - 90

George Leroy Williams - 90

Billie Bonham Shaw - 90

*Age is not a number, it is
an attitude.*

**Please send corrections and additions to
"Over 90 Club" to midornan@sbcglobal.net
or call 510-234-5334. Thank you to those who
update these numbers.**

*In the next issue look forward to another article about Brooks Island from
George Coles.*

Birthdays

April

LOOF LIRPA
Kathy Dornan Barnes
Roberta Dornan Palfini
Karilu Crain
Charlene Smith
Tara Kaufman
Ruth Wilson
Paula Israeli
Pam Wilson

Don Amantite
Joel Peterson
Lori Meister
Charlotte Knox
Monica Doherty
Eric HoilandMelissa
Allyn Delio
Alison Lord
John Maxwell

Sherri Mertle
Taylor Bradshaw
Carol MacDiarmid
Rosemary Corbin
Darian Peckham
Gloria Smith
Robert J. Palfini
Terry Downey
David Bradshaw

Sharon Mertle
Charline Barni
Louis Stockdale
Cynthia Wilson Quist
Joni Loux Emerson
Donna Diaz
David Roth

May

Douglas Corbin
Diana Corbin
Diana Spinola
Richard Mattuecci
Becky Horn
Jon Doellstedt
Sara Eeles
Vern Doellstedt
Rena Gonsalves
Lyle Fisher

Sandra Loux Fuller
Muriel Clausen
Ruth Beardsley
Nell Brooker
Patricia Dornan
Julina Smith
Anne-Catherine Hadreas
Marg Miller
Roger Glafke
Shoney Gustafson

Winifred Boziki
Jackson Bradshaw
Gene Bielawski
Norm Reynolds
Charles Palenchar
Darian Peckham
Gloria Smith
Robert J. Palfini
Terry Downey
David Bradshaw

Sharon Mertle
Charline Barni
Louis Stockdale
Cynthia Wilson Quist
Joni Loux Emerson
Donna Diaz
David Roth
Sophia Dolberg

Thanks to Kathe Kiehn and Heinz
Lankford for mailing the
November/December/January
issue of TPIT

Thanks to Tom Piazza for mailing
the last issue of TPIT!

Thanks to Pat Pearson for keeping
the local markets stocked with
TPIT!



**When chemists
die, they
barium.**

The Red Oak Victory Sails

The SS Red Oak Victory Ship will set sail under her own power for a Bay cruise on Monday, November 11, Veteran's Day. There is a lot of excitement on the Ship and the dock as volunteers continue the work necessary to prepare for the Ship's first sail. And you are invited to come along!

While the cost of a ticket is \$150 per person, until July 30th you can buy discounted sailing certificates. The sail requires a total of six certificates, purchased at \$20 each, for a total of \$120; a savings of \$30 from the \$150 required after July 30th. So get your tickets early. Save money and reserve your space. Call the Ship at (510) 237-2933; cash; checks and credit cards are accepted.

Remember: Veteran's Day, November 11, 2013. Actual time and boarding information will be announced in the Fall Edition of *The Mirror*.

-From the Richmond Museum Association Newsletter, *The Mirror*



Picture is from the SS Red Oak Victory's Website

ANSWERS TO THE INDIAN HEAD PENNY QUIZ

- I. FALSE. There is no Indian on Indian Head Pennies. Contrary to popular assumption, the Native American headdress crowns a stylized Lady Liberty-a portrait that was familiar on American coins of the era.
- II. FALSE. In fact, due to its 12% nickel content, the early Indian Head Penny was nicknamed a "nickel". A few years later, that nickname was shifted to the five-cent piece, and persists to this day.
- III. TRUE. 1909 saw the very last Indian Head Penny ever produced as well as the first of the Lincoln cents that replaced it.
- IV. TRUE. The design on the back was changed to an oak wreath and small shield the following year.
- V. FALSE. The legend persists, although it has never been proven, that engraver James B. Longacre used his daughter Sarah as the model for Lady Liberty.
- VI. TRUE. The longer a desirable coin is out of circulation, the scarcer it becomes and the greater the demand. Collectors will stop at nothing to acquire the Indian Head Pennies. We saw a recent example of "Penny mania" in 2009 when, to honor the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, four new commemorative pennies were issued showing different stages of Lincoln's life.

Mid



I tried to catch some fog, I mist.

Deaths.....

Karen Marie Mays died January 20, 2013. Age 62. Daughter of the late Jim and Darlene Byers, Karen lived in Orinda and is survived by, Mark, her husband of 39 years; daughters Holly McGlinn and Natalie Byers; a sister Judy Salvestin, and granddaughter Lyden McGlinn. Memorial services were held at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Point Richmond.

Frances Edna Hathaway, March 4, 2013 in Hanford, CA. Age 94 . Edna was born in Helena, Montana to Frances and Earl Wickersheim and moved to Point Richmond on Tunnel Avenue, in 1925 where she started at Washington School, age 7. Edna's passion for the piano began in her childhood. She was choir director of youth at the Point Methodist Church and many years played the organ at the church. Her interests involved her in Boy Scout Troop 111, Camp Fire Girls, camping, bridge, gardening. She spent months in her favorite place, Hawaii, but also traveled to many countries over the years. She retired in Hanford, Ca. where she touched many lives and continued involvement in local community activities. Edna played the piano every day for the Remington Retirement Center residents where she lived. Edna was preceded in death by her husband of 32 years, Milton Hathaway; her siblings, Winifred Shimel, Dorothy Parker Phyllis Elmore, Earl Wickersheim, Joan Davis, and 2 granddaughters. Edna is survived by her daughter, Ann Kissling, Hanford, CA., and Les Hathaway, Jackson, CA.; 5 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great granddaughters. A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, April 20, 213 at 1:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Point Richmond.

Marilyn Eloise Grafft died peacefully on June 16, 2012 following a stroke and further complications. Marilyn was born in Richmond, CA and grew up with her brother Russell and sister Patricia, in Point Richmond. She attended UC Berkeley where she met Bill Grafft. They were married June 16, 1951. Marilyn graduated from CAL with honors in 1953. She taught first grade at Hillside Primary School in Berkeley. They settled in Orinda, CA in 1957 and had two children. She and her husband were founding members of the Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church. They moved to Santa Clara in 1979, where she served in the office at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. Marilyn was a dedicated member of the Montalvo Service Group. In 2002 she was the recipient of the Points of Light Foundation Award. This Foundation was started in 1991 by then President George Bush to honor volunteers in community service. She was talented in arts and crafts and made Christmas decorations and gifts for friends and family. A wonderful cook, she was known for her apple pies and chocolate chip cookies. The great loves of her life were her husband Bill, her two children and five grandchildren. Her home was always filled with love. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Bill Grafft, daughter Kate Freeman, son-in-law Dean Freeman, their children Eric and Ali, son Paul Grafft, daughter-in-law Susan Grafft, and their children Caroline, Gordon and Kingsley Frazier and her husband Lt. Grant Frazier. A celebration of life was held at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church.

CALENDAR/DIRECTORY

ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND

Meets third Tuesday of each month 7-9 at the Pt. Community Center, Contact: Linda Drake, 510672-0793

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

114 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, 510-223-0487

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM AND EAST BAY MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY

900 Dornan Drive, Miller/Knox Regional Park. Sunday 12:00 to 5:00. Special openings on Saturdays and Holidays.
510-234-4884 for details.

MANY HANDS PROJECT TO SUPPORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Contact, Margaret Morkowski, 510-234-4219

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE

Quality productions, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sunday Matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$22. Dinner Theater Benefit one Sunday matinee during each run provides a show followed by dinner at the Hotel Mac for only \$50
Call 510-232-4031 for information or reservations.

PARENTS, RESOURCES AND MORE (PRAM)

A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving families with children 5 or under. Playgroups, social events, educational opportunities, Information go to <http://www.PRAM.net> or call 510-215-1734.

PARENT, TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Becky Jonas, Contact, 510-235-0157

POINT RICHMOND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Andrew Butt, 510-236-7445

POINT RICHMOND COMMUNITY CENTER

Info: 233-6881

POINT RICHMOND HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Museum is at 139½ Washington Avenue, and open Winter, Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00 and Saturday 11:30 to 2:00 and Summer, Wednesday 4:30 to 7:00 and Thursday's 11:30 to 2:00. The deadline for the next issue of TPIT is Friday May 31, 2013. Info call President Mildred Dornan at 510-234-5334.

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meets last Wednesday each month, Point Richmond Community Center; 7:30 P.M Contact: Sue Rosenof at 599-1197

POINT RICHMOND/WEST SIDE BRANCH LIBRARY

Information call 510-620-6567

RED OAK VICTORY

Open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday 10am - 3pm. \$5 donation for adults, \$4 seniors, \$2 children.
Sunday Breakfast September 10th and October 12th, 9 am - 1 pm, \$6 adults children FREE

RICHMOND SWIMS

The Children and teens "Sail Fish" and Masters swim teams at the Richmond Plunge.

Contact: Coach John Schonder, 510-504-0330

September 25, 2011 open water bay swim raises money for coaching, equipment, pool fees and swimming scholarships for inner-city youth throughout Richmond. More info at <http://www.richmondswims.org/> or call (415) 892-0771

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Washington School at 565 Wine Street offers traditional and Spanish dual immersion curriculum, K - 6th grade. Contact principal Lisa Levi at 231-1417 for more information.

WOMEN'S WESTSIDE IMPROVEMENT CLUB (established 1908)

Richmond's longest standing women's club. Contact: Norma Wallace , President. 510-236-6968

I would like to join the P.R.H.A.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Type of membership (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (65+)	15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Preserver	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Sponsor	75.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	History Maker	100.00

Membership in the Point Richmond History Association includes a one year subscription to "THIS POINT...in time" newsletter (five issues). Please make your check payable to the Point Richmond History Association and mail it to:

Pam Wilson
521 Western Drive
Point Richmond, CA 94801

If you would like to have birthdays noted in the newsletter, please include names and months.

Articles for each issue are due on or before the deadline printed in the calendar section.

Please mail articles and items of interest to:

Gary Shows
229 Golden Gate Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801

or
email: gary@alkos.com

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Visit our website
PointRichmondHistory.org

***Thanks ALKO office supply for
hosting our website***

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